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can be obtained at a nominal price (fifty cents each) of the secretary, Professor E. S. SHEDDEN, Cambridge, Mass., or of Messrs. D. C. HEATH & Co., Boston. This brochure should enlist the interest of all scientific students of our language. It sets forth the aim and methods of an organization devoted to the careful observation and study of the English language in this country, and reports the beginning already made in this subject in the brief history of this society. No one that has been trained to the careful observation of speech should withhold his help and support from this the first combined effort of scholars to secure trustworthy *data* for the proper treatment of the diverse phenomena of English speech in America.

Professor E. BOURCIEZ, Maître de Conférences à la Faculté des Lettres de Bordeaux, has lately published an excellent 'Précis de Phonétique française ou exposé des lois qui régissent la transformation des mots latins en français,' which may be recommended to beginners or those who desire to have in succinct and well arranged form a systematic and easily consultable statement of the subject. The little book is quite on a level with the latest investigation, and any one who will have thoroughly mastered its contents, (120 duodecimo pages), together, say, with HORNING's treatment of the same subject in BARTSCH and HORNING's 'La Langue et la Littérature françaises,' will be well prepared to proceed to the more complicated branches of French phonetics (Paris: C. Klincksieck, 1889).

A book of less specializing character is 'De Dante à l'Arétin: La Société italienne de la Renaissance' by LEFEBVRE SAINT-OGAN (Paris, Maisin Quantin, 1889). In a series of twelve chapters averaging some thirty pages each it treats of such subjects as "Le Caractère national," "La Religion," "La Tyrannie," "L'Humanisme et les Lettres," "La Vie de Cour," "La Famille et l'Education," "Les Femmes" etc., etc. They are pleasantly and intelligently written and throw many sidelights upon that all-important period—lights such as are not usually cast by the ordinarily

studied literature and history of the time. There is room for more books on this subject in relation to the period in question.

PERSONAL.

Mr. HENRY R. LANG, of the Friends' School, Providence, R. I., a frequent contributor to MOD. LANG. NOTES, to the *Publications* of the Modern Language Association, and to GRÖBER's *Zeitschrift f. rom. Philologie*, is spending a year on leave of absence in Europe, and is at present engaged in the study of early Portuguese at Lisbon. At the request of Prof. GRÖBER, Mr. LANG has recently undertaken the preparation of the 'Portugiesische Grammatik' in the "Sammlung romanischer Grammatiken" projected several years ago by the Gebrüder Henninger of Heilbronn. Only one of the grammars in the collection has as yet appeared: TH. GARTNER's excellent 'Raeto-romanische Grammatik' (1883); but the 'Italienische Grammatik', by Prof. W. MEYER (who, by the way, has just been called to the University of Vienna) will soon be ready for publication. The Spanish Grammar of the series is in the hands of Prof. J. CORNU of Graz, who so ably treated the subject of Portuguese in GRÖBER's 'Grundriss'; and the French Grammar has from the beginning of the enterprise been entrusted to Prof. FRITZ NEUMANN of Freiburg i. B., Associate Editor of the *Litteraturblatt f. rom. u. germ. Philologie*. It may be added that the Gebrüder Henninger have lately sold their establishment to Reishaupt in Leipsic.

We are asked to state that Professor A. DE ROUEMONT, author of the pleasing little work, 'La France', (cf. MOD. LANG. NOTES, vol. i, p. 126) has not been connected with the editorial management of *Le Français* since July, 1889.

Dr. GEORGE HEMPL (University of Michigan) has arranged with Dr. FURNIVALL to prepare for the Early English Text Society the first complete edition of BYRHTEFERTH'S 'Handboc of Gerimcraft, or Manual of Calendariology,' with a grammatical introduction, and a full glossarial index.